

**Rep. Cuellar Supports Firearm Safety and Responsible Ownership***Promotes Background Checks and Interagency Cooperation to Protect the Public***Active / Passed Legislation**

**Rep. Cuellar was the Lead Sponsor of the *Fix National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Act of 2017*. [SIGNED INTO LAW]**

- Closes loopholes in information sharing between agencies to keep guns out of the hands of people who will harm themselves and others.
- Directs the Department of Justice (DOJ) to establish a state implementation plan, including benchmarks, to maximize the automation and submission of mental health and criminal history records to the NICS.
- Provides important technical assistance to federal agencies and states who are working to comply with NICS record-sharing requirements.

**Rep. Cuellar Voted Yes on the *Bipartisan Background Check Act of 2021*. [PASSED HOUSE]**

- Closes the “gun-show loophole” in federal gun background check laws.
- Requires any firearm transfer between unrelated, unlicensed individuals — such as participants at a gun show — to be conducted through a licensed dealer, who is required to perform the background check on the recipient.

**Rep. Cuellar Voted Yes on the *Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2021*. [PASSED HOUSE]**

- Closes the “Charleston loophole” in federal gun background check laws.
- Prevents gun sales from proceeding if a background check isn’t completed within three days, as allowed under current law.

**Rep. Cuellar is an Original Cosponsor of the *Law Enforcement Training for Mental Health Crisis Response Act of 2021*.**

- Provides grants to State, local, territorial, and tribal law enforcement agencies to obtain behavioral health crisis response training for law enforcement officers.
- Directs the Office of Justice Programs within the Department of Justice (DOJ) to award grants to law enforcement agencies for behavioral health crisis response training.

**Fiscal Year 2022 Appropriations Provisions**

**Rep. Cuellar Secured \$100,000,000 in funding for the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Initiative.**

- Funding for the Department of Justice (DOJ) to assist states in upgrading their criminal and mental health records within the NICS Program, furthering efforts to close loopholes and help law enforcement at the local, state, and federal level work together and prevent further mass shootings.

**Rep. Cuellar Helped Secure \$1,554,461,000 in funding for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), funding the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN).**

- Also, secured language supporting the interdiction of illegal firearms and prevention of gun trafficking by continuing support for NIBIN’s presence on the Southwest Border.

**Rep. Cuellar Helped Secure \$140,000,000 in funding for the STOP School Violence Act Grant Program.**

- Enhances security hardening measures, such as reporting systems for threats of school violence; locks, lighting, and other deterrent measures; and technology for expedited notification of local law enforcement during an emergency.

**Rep. Cuellar Secured language to provide Local Law Enforcement Departments with Veterans Mental Health Response Liaisons.**

- Tasks the VA with performing educational outreach to local law enforcement communities.
- Promotes active educational awareness on the unique issues facing Veterans, especially those returning from combat operations.

**Fiscal Year 2021 Appropriations Provisions**

**Rep. Cuellar Secured \$85,000,000 in funding for the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Initiative.**

- Funding for the Department of Justice (DOJ) to assist states in upgrading their criminal and mental health records within the NICS Program, furthering efforts to close loopholes and help law enforcement at the local, state, and federal level work together and prevent further mass shootings.

**Rep. Cuellar Helped Secure \$1,483,887,000 in funding for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), funding the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN).**

- Also, secured language directing aid to interdict illegal firearms and prevent gun trafficking by establishing a NIBIN presence on the Southwest Border.

**Rep. Cuellar Helped Secure \$37,000,000 for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) to hire additional investigative personnel and expand oversight of Federal Firearms Licensees.**

**Rep. Cuellar Helped Secure \$132,000,000 in funding for the STOP School Violence Act Grant Program.**

- Enhances security hardening measures, such as reporting systems for threats of school violence; locks, lighting, and other deterrent measures; and technology for expedited notification of local law enforcement during an emergency.

**Rep. Cuellar Secured language to provide Local Law Enforcement Departments with Veterans Mental Health Response Liaisons.**

- Tasks the VA with performing educational outreach to local law enforcement communities.
- Promotes active educational awareness on the unique issues facing Veterans, especially those returning from combat operations.